

1 1. An injection blow molding machine having a turret with at
2 least three planar faces, each of the planar faces carrying at least one hollow core
3 rod, the turret being rotatable by an indexing motion to present each face,
4 successively, at a plurality of stations to form, at one of said stations, a preform of an
5 article on said at least one core rod at said one of said stations, and then to form, at a
6 successive one of said stations, a blown article from said at least one of said
7 preforms, and apparatus for cooling said core rod at said one of said stations, said
8 apparatus comprising:

9 a source of compressed air;
10 means for conditioning compressed air from said source; and
11 means for circulating conditioned compressed air from said
12 means for conditioning compressed air through said at least one core rod at said one
13 of said stations.

1 2. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said means for
2 conditioning comprises pressure regulating means for regulating pressure of said
3 compressed air.

1 3. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said means for
2 conditioning comprises heater means for heating said compressed air.

1 4. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said means for
2 conditioning comprises cooler means for cooling said compressed air.

1 5. Apparatus according to Claim 4 wherein said cooler means
2 comprises means for injecting a spray of water into said compressed air.

1 6. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said means for
2 circulating compressed air comprises means for exhausting compressed air from said
3 at least one core rod at said one of said stations.

1 7. Apparatus according to Claim 6 wherein said means for
2 exhausting comprises means for discharging compressed air from said at least one
3 core rod to atmosphere.

1 8. Apparatus according to Claim 6 and further comprising:
2 means for compressing compressed air exhausted from said at
3 least one core rod and returning said compressed air exhausted from said at least one
4 core rod to said means for circulating compressed air for conditioning by said means
5 for conditioning to return said compressed air exhausted from said at least one core
6 rod to said at least one core rod.

1 9. The method of cooling an injection molded parison of a
2 thermoplastic material on a core rod, the method comprising:

3 providing a supply of compressed air from a source;
4 conditioning the supply of compressed air; and
5 circulating the conditioned, compressed air through an interior
6 of the core rod.

1 10. The method according to Claim 9 wherein the conditioning of
2 the supply of compressed air comprises:

3 regulating the pressure of the supply of compressed air.

1 11. The method according to Claim 9 wherein the step of
2 conditioning the supply of compressed air comprises:

3 heating the supply of compressed air.

1 12. The method according to Claim 9 wherein the conditioning of
2 the supply of compressed air comprises:

3 cooling the supply of compressed air.

1 13. The method according to Claim 12 wherein the cooling of the
2 supply of compressed air comprises:

3 injecting a water spray into the supply of compressed air.

1 14. The method according to Claim 9 and further comprising:
2 exhausting conditioned air from the core rod.

1 15. The method according to Claim 14 wherein the exhausting of
2 conditioned air from the core rod comprises:

3 discharging the exhausted compressed air from the core rod to
4 atmosphere.

1 16. The method according to Claim 14 wherein the exhausting of
2 conditioned air from the core rod comprises:

3 recompressing and reconditioning the exhausted compressed
4 air and returning the recompressed and reconditioned exhausted compressed air to
5 the core rod.

- 1 17. The method according to Claim 9 wherein the thermoplastic
2 material is selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene, high
3 density polyethylene and polypropylene.